



CROATICA CHEMICA ACTA
CCACAA, ISSN-0011-1643, ISSN-1334-417X
Croat. Chem. Acta **82** (1) (2009) CXXXV–CXXXIX.

Instructions to Authors

GENERAL INFORMATION

Croatica Chemica Acta (CCA) is an international journal devoted to the publication of papers of general interest from all fields of chemistry. Four issues are published annually. Contributions should be written in good English; an abstract (translated) in Croatian is added.

Categories of Contributions

CCA publishes *Original scientific papers*, *Notes*, *Preliminary communications*, *Reviews*, *Feature articles*, *Conference papers*, *Essays*, and *Data bank contributions*. In the appendix, the Journal publishes *Letters to the Editor*, *Book reviews*, *Obituaries* and the Croatian Chemical Society news.

Original scientific papers report unpublished results of original research. The papers have to contain all the necessary information to enable reproducibility of the described work.

Notes report unpublished results of short, but completed, original research or describe original laboratory techniques (methods, apparatus, etc.). Notes should not exceed 1000 words.

Preliminary communications report unpublished preliminary results of original research that require prompt publication.

Reviews are concise and critical surveys of a specific research field, providing the reader with up-to-date information on current developments and trends. As a rule, reviews are written upon invitation from the Editor. Exceptionally, critical surveys of the authors' own research fields are also acceptable. In such cases, this should be mentioned in a separate note.

Feature articles are concise and critical reviews of a current topic, pointing to trends and controversies in the field. They should be understandable to nonspecialists. Feature articles are written upon invitation from the Editorial Board and should not exceed 20 typewritten pages.

Conference papers should be reported at a congress, symposium or summer school prior to submission to the Journal. Conference papers are submitted by the Organizing Committee.

Essays report *curricula vitae* of the important Croatian chemists and accounts of the history of chemistry.

Data bank contributions contain new chemical and physical data in order to make them available for subsequent scientific interpretation and various practical uses.

Letters to the Editor are a medium for expression of scientific opinions or exchange of different views concerning the material published in CCA.

Reviewing of Manuscripts

All contributions are evaluated according to the criteria of originality and quality of their scientific content. Only papers with favourable reports of referees are accepted for publication. To speed up the reviewing process, the authors should suggest at least three or four persons competent to review their manuscripts. Full address, including email, of each potential reviewer should be given. Such suggestions will be considered but not necessarily followed.

Style and Language

All contributions should be written in a style that addresses a wider audience than papers in more specialized journals. For reasons of economy, brevity of paper presentation is essential. Standard English or American spelling can be used, but consistency should be maintained throughout a paper. Manuscripts with grammar or vocabulary deficiencies are disadvantaged during the scientific review process and, even if accepted, may be returned to the author to be rewritten in idiomatic English.

Title

The paper should have a concise, clear title directed at the general reader. The title should be brief, preferably 12 words or less; readers rarely read and absorb long

titles. Use of non-standard abbreviations, symbols and formulae in the title is discouraged.

Graphic Contents Entry

Starting with the first issue in 2003, CCA features a Table of Contents that contains a graphic presentation for each entry, in addition to the title and author list. The graphical abstract should highlight the essence of chemistry described in the article in such a way as to encourage further perusal of the article. Graphics used in the Contents entry need not necessarily appear in the article itself.

PROFESSIONAL ETHICS AND PUBLICATION POLICY

The Journal expects the Editors, reviewers and authors to adhere to the well-known standards of professional ethics. Authors are responsible for the factual accuracy of their contributions. Submission of the paper commits the author not to submit the same material elsewhere. Reviewers should act promptly. If certain circumstances preclude prompt attention to the manuscript at the time it is received, the unreceived manuscript should be returned immediately to the Editor or the reviewer should contact the Editor for possible delay of the report submission date. The Editor accepts full responsibility for his decisions on the manuscripts. Contributions may be rejected without review if considered inappropriate for the Journal.

ADMINISTRATION

All manuscripts received for consideration will be acknowledged by the Editorial Office. The manuscript will be given a reference number, which the authors are asked to quote in all subsequent correspondence. Corresponding authors should notify the Editorial Office that all coauthors have given their approval for paper publication. Manuscripts should be submitted by e-mail to the address given at the end of these Instructions. Guidelines for electronic files preparation in the CCA style are given in the Preparation of Manuscripts.

PREPARATION OF MANUSCRIPTS

Introductory Notes

Rapid publication is aided by careful preparation of text and illustrations. Special attention is drawn to the use of SI units and associated conventions, current IUPAC

nomenclature and symbolism and standard methods of literature citation. The quality of illustrations in the Journal depends on the quality of the original artwork provided by the author. The correct lettering-size to graphic-width ratio should be chosen. Single column illustrations are preferred in case of low-detailed graphics.

Minimum resolution of 300 dpi for photography and 600 dpi for line art is mandatory (applies to both b/w or color graphics). Lettering and lines should be of uniform density and the lines unbroken.

If English is not the author's native language, the manuscript should be corrected by a language specialist, prior to submission.

Organization of Material

Manuscripts should be assembled as follows: *title page*, *abstract*, *keywords*, *introduction*, *experimental section*, *results and discussion*, *conclusions* (optional), *acknowledgements*, *references*, *legends*, *tables*, *illustrations* (figures, schemes) and *graphical abstract*. Authors from Croatia should add an abstract in Croatian.

As a rule, Original scientific papers should be subdivided into *Introduction*, *Experimental section*, *Results and Discussion*. Subdivision of other papers may deviate from this rule.

The research aim and a concise description of background information, directly connected to the paper, should be given in the *Introduction*.

Experimental section should describe materials, tools and methods in sufficient detail to enable experienced persons to repeat them. Well-known procedures need not be described in detail but referred to by references.

The reporting and interpretation of experimental and computational results must be clear and concise. It is usual for the *Results* to be presented first, followed by a *Discussion* of their significance. Results and Discussion may be combined or kept separate. This section should not be cluttered with technical details.

The addition of a *Conclusion* section at the end of the paper, which briefly summarizes the principal conclusions of the work, is recommended.

Notes on the Preparation of Manuscripts

1. Manuscripts should be submitted in the electronic version. Pages and appendices must be numbered.
2. The manuscript (in general) must contain, each on a separate page, the title page, abstract in English, (abstract in Croatian), graphical abstract, list of references, tables (each table separately), illustrations (each separately), and legends to illustrations (all on

the same page).

3. *The title page* must contain: the title of the paper, name(s) of the author(s) (first name spelt out), full mailing addresses of all authors, running title (no more than 50 characters including spaces), keywords (up to 6), the phone and fax numbers and the e-mail address of the author to whom correspondence should be sent.
4. *The Abstract* should be written in the impersonal form and must not exceed 150 words. The aim of the work, essential results and conclusions must be given. The Croatian abstract must be a translation of the English abstract. For authors outside Croatia, the Editorial Board will translate the English abstract into Croatian.
5. *IUPAC recommendations* should be followed. Detailed instructions are given in relevant IUPAC publications:
 - *Nomenclature of Inorganic Chemistry*, Blackwell Scientific Publications, Oxford, 1992.
 - *A Guide to IUPAC Nomenclature of Organic Compounds*, Blackwell, Oxford 1993.
 - *Quantities, Units and Symbols in Physical Chemistry* - 2nd edition, Blackwell Scientific Publications, Oxford, 1993.
 - *Quantities, Units and Symbols in Physical Chemistry* - 3rd edition, for IUPAC, RSC Publishing, Cambridge 2007.

Note: some of the books from the IUPAC Nomenclature Books Series are available for free download as pdf documents from the IUPAC web site:

<http://old.iupac.org/publications/books/seriestitles/nomenclature.html>
<http://old.iupac.org/publications/books/rbook/>
<http://old.iupac.org/publications/books/gbook/>

6. *SI units* (SI, *Système Internationale d'Unités*) should be used. Where there are special reasons for making an exception to this rule, it is recommended to define the units used in terms of SI units. In tabulating the numerical values of physical quantities, or labeling the axes of graphs, the quotient of a physical quantity and a unit should be used in such a form that the values to be tabulated are pure numbers.

Examples:

- T / K or Temperature / K
- $10^3 (T / \text{K})^{-1}$
- $\ln(p / \text{kPa})$

$$\bullet \left(I_m / \text{mmol kg}^{-1} \right)^{1/2}$$

Percents and *per mills*, although not being units in the same sense as the units of dimensioned quantities, can be treated as such. Unit symbols should never be modified (for instance: w / w %, vol. %, mol. %) but the quantity measured has to be named, e.g. mass fraction, $w = 95 \%$; amount (mole) fraction, $x = 20 \%$.

7. *Decimal numbers* must have decimal points, not decimal commas (except in the Croatian abstract).
 8. *Latin words* should be italicized, as for example:

et al., *i.e.*, *in vivo*, *ibid.*, *vs.*
 9. *Double subscripts* or *superscripts* should be avoided whenever possible. For example: $A_{\text{NO}_3^-}$ is better written as $A(\text{NO}_3^-)$ and $\exp(\mu^\circ / RT)$ is better than $e^{\mu^\circ / RT}$ or $e^{\frac{\mu^\circ}{RT}}$.
 10. *The data for new compounds* should be quoted as follows: yield, melting (boiling) point, UV absorption, IR absorption, NMR spectra, mass spectrum and elemental analysis, e.g. 5 g (53 %); m.p 75–76 °C; UV(EtOH) $\lambda_{\text{max}} / \text{nm}$: 228 and 262 ($\log \varepsilon / \text{dm}^3 \text{mol}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-1}$: 4.23 and 3.92; IR(KBr) $\tilde{\nu}_{\text{max}} / \text{cm}^{-1}$: 1650 (CO), 1620 (C=N); ^1H NMR (CDCl_3) δ / ppm : 2.30 (s, 3H, Me), 4.51 (d, 1H, $J_{1,2} = 3.2 \text{ Hz}$, H-3); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3) δ / ppm : 160 (C-5), 120 (C-2); MS m/z : 264 (M^+ , 100 %) and 246 ($\text{M}^+ - 18$).
- Anal.* Calcd. mass fractions of elements, $w / \%$, for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{13}\text{N}_3\text{O}_5\text{S}$ ($M_r = 383.38$) are: C 56.39, H 3.42, N 10.96, O 20.87, S 8.36; found: C 56.31, H 3.62, N 10.76, O 20.60, S 8.19. When describing more than 4 or 5 compounds, the data are best presented as a table.
11. *Illustrations* (figures, graphs, structural formulae of compounds) should be suitable for direct reproduction or the size of lettering should enable reduction to the one- (preferred) or two-column format. Color should be used if essential for clarity of communication.
 12. *Tables* must have brief titles that describe their contents. Details should be put in footnotes, not in the title. Tables should be sized to conform to the single and double column width.
 13. *Tables* and *illustrations* should be intelligible without reference to the text, and their position in the text should be indicated. Tables and illustrations should be numbered with Arabic numerals.
 14. *Large tables* and *computer programs* will not be

printed. They should be sent to the Editorial Office only if deposition into the relevant database is not possible. Such material may be included as Supplement in the pdf version of the article. This should be mentioned in the manuscript.

15. Prior to submitting the manuscript reporting the results of *crystal structure determination(s)*, the authors should deposit the crystallographic data with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre (organic and metal-organic structures) or with the Fachinformationszentrum Karlsruhe (inorganic structures). The addresses are:

- Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK

e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk

Guidance for deposition can be found at:

<http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/conts/depositing.html>

- Fachinformationszentrum Karlsruhe (FIZ), D-76344 Eggenstein-Leopoldshafen, Germany

e-mail: crysdata@fiz-karlsruhe.de

<http://crystal.fiz-karlsruhe.de>

Deposition number should be submitted together with the manuscript and an appropriate note should be put in the paper.

16. Bibliographic references in the text should be made by the use of numerical superscripts, for example: ...was studied.^{14,15} References should be numbered in the order in which they are cited in the text. References themselves should be given at the end of the paper using ordinal numbers only (no brackets, etc.).
17. Journals should be cited as follows: name(s) of the author(s), journal abbreviation (*italic*), volume number (**bold**), year of issue (in parentheses), page numbers (first and last). For example:
 - N. Colocci and P. B. Dervan, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **116** (1994) 785–786.
 - P. J. Garegg, T. Regberg, J. Stawinski, and R. Strömberg, *J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 1* (1987) 1269–1273.

Journal abbreviations should be those defined in the *Chemical Abstracts Service Source Index* (CASSI). CAPLUSSM Core Journal Coverage List of selected ca. 1 600 journal names and abbreviations can be found at:

<http://www.cas.org/expertise/cascontent/caplus/corejournals.html>

18. Books should be cited as shown in the following examples:

- M. J. S. Dewar, *The Molecular Orbital Theory of Organic Chemistry*, McGraw Hill, New York, 1969, p. 442.
- G. Pilcher, *Thermochemistry of Chemical Compounds*, in: H. A. Skinner (Eds.), *Thermochemistry and Thermodynamics*, Physical Chemistry Series One, Vol. 10, MTP, International Review of Science, Butterworths, London, 1972, pp. 62–66.

19. Names of all authors should be given in the list of references; the abbreviation *et al.* may be used in the text only.

Preparation of Electronic Files

The preferred text formats are DOC, DOCX, RTF. If Tex / LaTeX is used, a UTF-8 encoded text file should be exported and submitted together with the TEX and PDF files of the whole material.

The following formats of computer generated graphics should be used: CDR, WMF, EMF, EPS, PS, TIF (TIFF), AI, JPG (JPEG), PNG, BMP or high quality (press optimized) PDF (use min. 300 dpi for rasterization of vector graphics, but no more than 600 dpi). The use of GIF images is discouraged; however, GIF and any other graphic file type may also be considered and accepted unless its quality is too low for publishing (low resolution, noticeable JPG artifacts, etc.).

In case of large files (files larger than 5 MB might be rejected by mail servers), the use of file compression (archiving) programs is recommended (WinRar, WinZip, etc.). All of the text and tabular material (if any) should be in a single file with the complete text first, followed by the tabular material. Do not integrate any graphic material into this text file. Graphics should be given separately, each in its original format. If the original graphic format is not one of the above specified ones, it should be (if possible) exported into one of the recommended formats. When preparing the manuscript text, use a simple, full-width format with no page-formatting other than margin definitions. The text must be unjustified. Do not insert spaces before punctuation. Carefully proofread the final copy for consistent notation and correct spelling.

SUBMISSION OF MANUSCRIPTS

Manuscripts should be submitted by e-mail as medium quality (screen optimized) pdf. After the manuscript has been accepted for publication, the authors should supply

the final (revised) material both in screen optimized pdf and in the recommended text and graphic formats.

Page Proofs and Reprints

Proofs in pdf will be sent by e-mail to the authors for corrections. Only errors following from the production process should be corrected; no additional changes to the text should be made. The proofs should be returned within five days to the address given at the end of these Instructions. As soon as the proofs are returned and the corrections are made, a Hi-Res PDF version of each article will be made available at the CCA website and the article will be considered as having been published. Use of the online version is free. After the completed issue is put on the CCA website, all authors will be informed about it and the printed version will be produced after that. Paper reprints may be obtained by

filling out the ordering form which is sent to the authors together with the proofs.

IMPORTANT NOTE

The latest version of *Instructions to Authors* as well as pdf versions of all papers published in CCA since 1998 can be found at:

<http://public.carnet.hr/ccacaa/>

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